25.78 lakh families had been assisted. Of these, 7.98 lakh belong to Scheduled Castes and 2.977 lakhs to Scheduled Tribes beneficiaries. Of the total assisted 4.122 lakh were women beneficiaries.

In January, 1988, 3.24 lakh families were assisted under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP). Of these, 1.09 lakh belong to Scheduled Castes, 0.41 lakh to Scheduled Tribes and 0.70 lakh Women.

Starvation deaths in Orissa

2538. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: *

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Indian Express' of the 11th February, 1988 wherein it has been stated that 90 persons died of starvation during the last one month in Koraput District of Orissa;

(b) whether there have been any starvation deaths in any other States also; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take to save the persons from starvation deaths in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No State Government has reported starvation deaths.

(c) For providing relief to the drought affected population, the following measures are undertaken:—

(i) Execution of relief works for employment generation,

(ii) provision of gratuitous relief to old and infirm persons,

(iii) distribution of foodgrains as part payment of wages on relief works,

(iv) provision of supplementary nutrition for young children and pregnant and lactating mothers, and

(v) strengthening of public distribution system for ensuring availability of foodgrains.

Completion of Alumina Complex of NALCO

2539. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Alumina Complex of the National Aluminium Company (NALCO) has completed its work at Angal and Damanjodi in Orissa;

(b) if so, when it is likely to go on production;

(c) if not, what is the exact time of completion of the said project; and

(d) what was the estimated cost of the project and the otal expenditure incurred so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) and (c) :

Damanjodi : Bauxite mine at Damanjodi has been completed and is under production. Stream I of the Alumina Refinery is also under production. For Stream II of the Alumina Refinery bauxite was charged in December 1987 which is now under process.

Angul: Three units of 120 MW each of the Captive Power Plant have been commissioned and are in operation. Unit IV and Unit V of the Captive Power Plant are expected to be operational by May 1988 and November 1988 respectively. However, some delay is expected in Unit V.

In the Aluminium Smelter, 146 pots have already been energised by end-February 1988 and it is expected that 240 pots will be energised by May 1988. Energisation of the remaining 240 pots would be gradually achieved in consonance with the commissioning of Unit IV and Unit V of the Captive Power Plant.